



FLOOR

2021 Annual Report



Shuck & Share Oyster Shell Recycling

Florida Oceanographic Society's FLOOR program is committed to improving our waters through oyster reef restoration. Oysters are essential to improving the quality of our waters through filtration, habitat development and erosion control. Oyster shell is often the limiting factor in oyster restoration as oyster larvae seek out hard substrate to settle and grow on. Florida Oceanographic is a participating member of Shuck & Share, a regional program established to divert oyster shell from landfills to restoration efforts in the Indian River Lagoon, FL. Since 2010, Florida Oceanographic has collected 361 tons (772,000 lbs.) of oyster shell with 44.5 tons (88,900 lbs.) collected in 2021, to be used for oyster restoration.

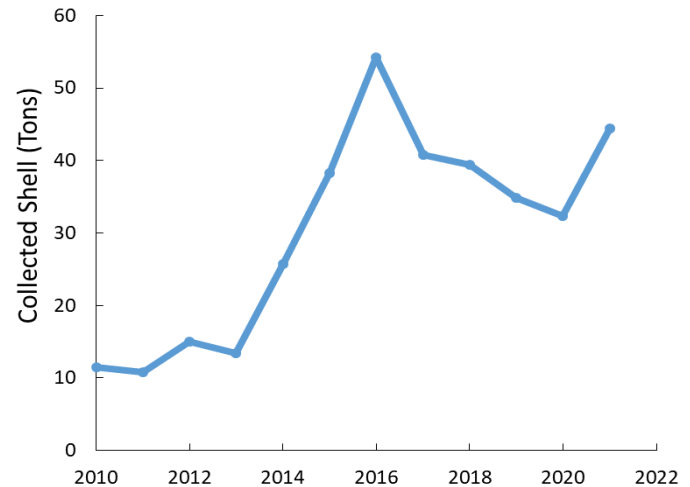


Figure 1: Shell collection records from 2010-2021.

Oyster Reef Restoration Sites

To date, Florida Oceanographic has restored over 60,000 square feet of oyster reefs in the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie Estuary using recycled oyster shell collected from our Shuck & Share Program. There are currently 28 restored oyster reefs created by Florida Oceanographic in the region, which could not have been created without the help of our amazing volunteers. In 2021, Florida Oceanographic deployed 61.4 cubic feet of oyster reef and have plans to build more in the summer of 2022. If you are interested in participating in an oyster reef deployment, please visit the link on the following page for more information regarding volunteer events.

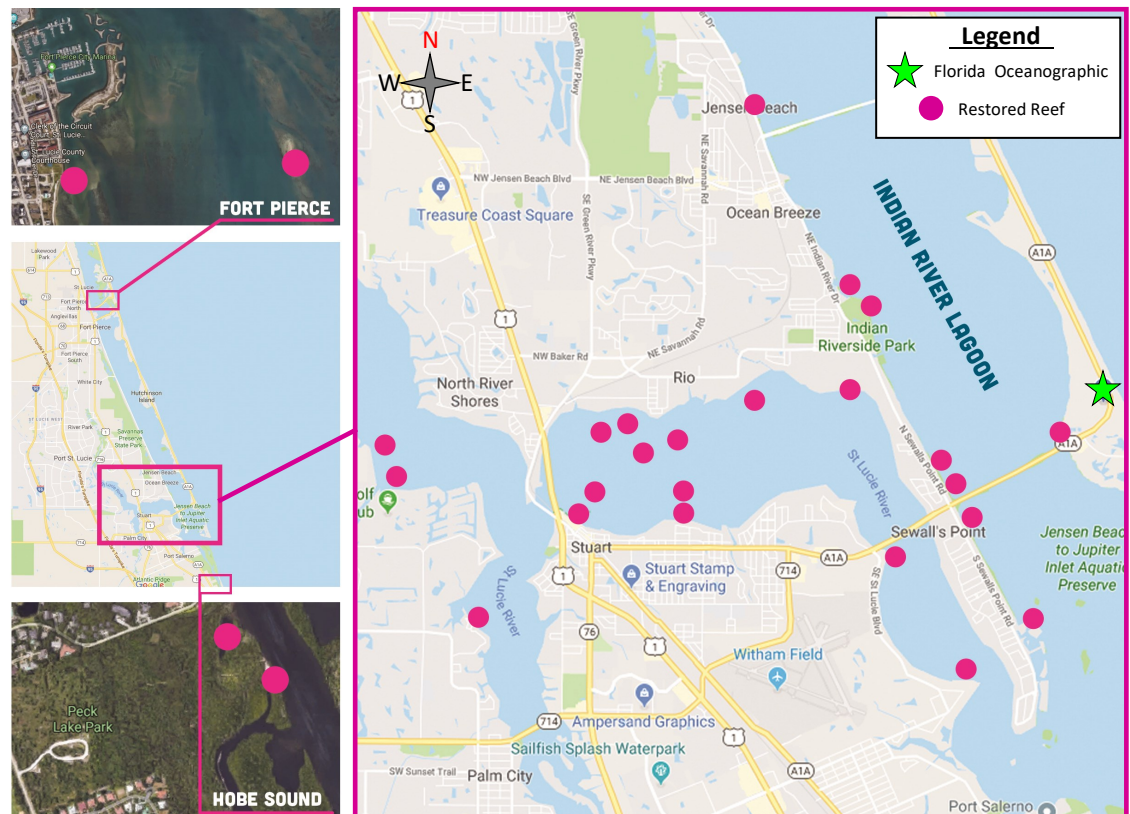


Figure 2: Locations of Florida Oceanographic restored oyster reefs in the St. Lucie Estuary and Indian River Lagoon

Thank You 2021 Volunteers!

This past year, a total of 126 volunteers dedicated just over 404 hours by bagging 6,712 oyster shell bags for oyster reef restoration! We greatly appreciate all volunteers who participated in 2021 FLOOR events and would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment.

We are always excited to have new volunteers help with our oyster restoration program! If you are interested please visit: www.floridaocean.org/volunteer



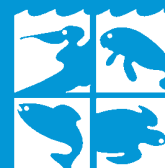
Special Thanks To Our 2021 Participating Partners



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